

Message Text

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BEIRUT PLEASE POUCH BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

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SUBJ: SECRETARY' S ANNUAL FOREIGN POLICY REPORT: PORTION
ON IRAQ (1972)

FOR YOUR INFO AND USE, FOLLOWING IS PORTION OF SECRETARY' S
FOREIGN POLICY REPORT DEALING WITH IRAQ. QUOTE:

IN THE ABSENCE OF FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IRAQ,
THE UNITED STATES DECIDED IN 1972 TO ASSIGN TWO AMERICAN
FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS TO THE UNITED STATES INTERESTS
SECTION IN BAGHDAD, WHICH SINCE 1967 HAS BEEN STAFFED BY
THE BELGIAN EMBASSY. THIS DECISION WAS MADE PURSUANT TO
A U. S.- IRAQI UNDERSTANDING OF JUNE 1967, WHICH PROVIDED
FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS TO INTERESTS
SECTIONS IN THE RESPECTIVE CAPITALS. WHILE THE UNITED
STATES CHOSE NOT TO ASSIGN AMERICAN PERSONNEL TO BAGHDAD
UNTIL RECENTLY, IRAQI DIPLOMATS HAVE BEEN IN WASHINGTON
SINCE 1967.

IN JUNE 1972 THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT TOOK STEPS TO NATIONALIZE
THE IRAQ PETROLEUM COMPANY (IPC) FACILITIES, IN WHICH
AMERICAN FIRMS ARE SHAREHOLDERS. A MEDIATION EFFORT WAS
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UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN THE IPC SHAREHOLDER COMPANIES AND THE
IIAQI GOVERNMENT, AND AT THE END OF THE YEAR A SERIOUS

EFFORT WAS BEING MADE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT. OVER THE
PAST YEAR IRAQ DISPLAYED INCREASING INTEREST IN ECONOMIC
AND COMMERCIAL CONTACTS WITH U. S. FIRMS. END QUOTE. ROGERS

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